

Attorney's Docket No.: 09215-005001

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION**FACSIMILE****FOR THE PERSONAL ATTENTION OF:****EXAMINER PARESH PATEL****U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (PATENT)****COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS****WASHINGTON, DC 20231****GROUP 2829****FAX NO: (571) 273-1968**

Number of pages including this page 13

Applicant : Yuen-Foo Michael Kou

Art Unit : 2829

Serial No. : 09/924,279

Examiner : Paresh Patel

Filed : August 8, 2001

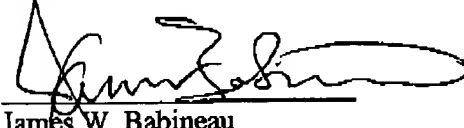
FACSIMILE COMMUNICATIONTitle : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EVALUATING A SET OF ELECTRONIC
COMPONENTSCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached to this facsimile communication cover sheet is a Supplemental Amendment in Reply to Action of July 7, 2003 and a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, faxed this 11th day of February, 2004, to Group 2829, the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 11, 2004


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yuen-Foo Michael Kou Art Unit : 2829
Serial No. : 09/924,279 Examiner : Paresh Patel
Filed : August 8, 2001
Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EVALUATING A SET OF ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS

Commissioner for Patents
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This statement is being filed after a first Office action on the merits, but before receipt of a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance. A check for \$180 in payment of the late submission fee of §1.17(p) is enclosed. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the technique disclosed herein as prior art in continuing his examination. Applicant believes the following technique is used by electronic assembly manufacturers to comply with the guidelines outlined in Joint Industry Standard, IPC/JEDEC J-STD-033, April 1999, entitled "Standard for Handling, Packing, Shipping and Use of Moisture/Reflow Sensitive Surface Mount Devices," which was previously disclosed in an Information Disclosure Statement, filed on 8 August 2004.³ *pb*

02/11/04
Paresh

Problems associated with moisture and reflow sensitive electronic devices are generally known in the art. To address these problems, electronic assembly manufacturers install environmental sensing devices (e.g., thermometers, relative humidity sensors, etc.) to measure ambient environmental parameters in electronic component storage areas. Periodically, manufacturer personnel visually inspect the environmental sensing devices and manually record environmental data indicated by those devices into a log. Typically, the data is either hand-written onto a piece of paper or manually entered into a computer database.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

February 11, 2004
Date of Transmission

Signature

Denise Rose
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

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environmental data indicated by those devices into a log. Typically, the data is either hand-written onto a piece of paper or manually entered into a computer database.

These manufacturers also track the movements of each set of electronic components through various sections of their facilities. This tracking of movements may be accomplished in a number of ways. For example, the manufacturer might maintain a hand written log to track component locations. Alternately, the manufacturer might use a computer based tracking system that requires manufacturer personnel to manually enter component location information by hand.

Finally, sometime before exposing a component from a particular set to reflow conditions, the manufacturer performs a calculation to determine whether the electronic components are suitable for installation. This calculation may be performed by hand, or may be accomplished with the aid of a calculator or computer.

Respectfully submitted,

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